



## FEDERATION OF FAMILIES For Children's Mental Health

9605 Medical Center Drive, Ste 280 • Rockville, MD 20850 • Phone ~ 240-403-1901 • Fax ~ 240-403-1909 • [www.ffcmh.org](http://www.ffcmh.org)

Dear System of Care Partners,

We are pleased to announce that **Dare to Dream America** was formally launched by Dr. Terry Cline, SAMHSA Administrator, and Tyrus "TJ" Curtis, Chairman, Youth MOVE National during SAMHSA's National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day Celebration.

**Dare to Dream America** is a new initiative in which youth (up to 23 years of age) can spread the message about the importance of mental health in their schools and communities. Through an application process young people from all over the country will propose an activity that promotes positive mental health. Selected proposals will receive a \$1,000 stipend to assist them with implementing their proposed activity. This is a chance for youth to stand up and help other youth in their schools and communities by promoting positive mental health across America; hence "**Dare to Dream America**."

**Dare to Dream America** will be managed by Youth MOVE National. Youth MOVE National is a subsidiary of the National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health, and supported by the Child Adolescent and Family Branch of the Center for Mental Health Services. Youth MOVE is a youth led national organization devoted to improving services and systems that support positive growth and development by uniting the voices of individuals who have lived experience in various systems including mental health, juvenile justice, education, and child welfare.

**Dare to Dream America** requires an adult mentor as well as specific deliverables and outcomes that the young person will agree to as part of the receipt of the funds. Young people from Youth MOVE will select the "winners" and oversee the initiatives. In this first round we expect to fund approximately 20 initiatives.

With the launch of **Dare to Dream America**, we hope that all of our systems of care partners will strongly encourage and support young people to get involved.

Application forms are located on the [www.youthmove.us](http://www.youthmove.us) and [www.ffcmh.org](http://www.ffcmh.org) websites. All applications must be submitted to Carl Yonder at [youthmove@ffcmh.org](mailto:youthmove@ffcmh.org) by June 30, 2008.

Good luck getting started!

Gary Blau,

Chief, Child, Adolescent and Family  
Branch, Center for Mental Health  
Services

Sandra A. Spencer,

Executive Director, National  
Federation of Families for Children's  
Mental Health

Carl Yonder,

Youth MOVE National Director

\*PS. Information Packet and Application form attached.

The National Family Voice for Children's Mental Health